

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ An image input apparatus ~~according to claim 7~~
comprising:

means, including a first line sensor and a second line sensor, for converting an image of an original, the first line sensor being composed of a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second line sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

means for discriminating an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of line sensors that constitute the first line sensor, and for outputting discrimination information; and

means for correcting the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor of the converting means, on the basis of the discrimination information from the discriminating means, with reference to an output signal from the second line sensor of the converting means,

wherein the ~~correction~~ correcting means performs correction by executing a black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, on the basis of the discrimination information from the ~~image region discrimination~~ discriminating means, ~~a black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plural line sensors of the first line sensor, using~~ with reference to the output signal from the second line sensor.

11. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ An image input apparatus ~~according to claim 7~~
comprising:

means, including a first line sensor and a second line sensor, for converting an image of an original, the first line sensor being composed of a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second line sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

means for discriminating an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of line sensors that constitute the first line sensor, and for outputting discrimination information; and

means for correcting the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor of the converting means, on the basis of the discrimination information from the discriminating means, with reference to an output signal from the second line sensor of the converting means,

wherein the ~~correction~~ correcting means executes a black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, on the basis of the discrimination information from the ~~image region discrimination~~ discriminating means, a ~~black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plural line sensors of the first line sensor, using~~ with reference to the output signal from the second line sensor, and produces the output signals, which are subjected to the black character substitution process, and the output signal from the second line sensor.

12. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ An image input apparatus ~~according to claim 7~~ comprising:

means, including a first line sensor and a second line sensor, for converting an image of an original, the first line sensor being composed of a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second line sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

means for discriminating an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of line sensors that constitute the first line sensor, and for outputting discrimination information; and

means for correcting the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor of the converting means, on the basis of the discrimination information from the discriminating means, with reference to an output signal from the second line sensor of the converting means,

wherein the ~~correction~~ correcting means executes a black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, on the basis of the discrimination information from the ~~image region discrimination discriminating~~ means, ~~a black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plural line sensors of the first line sensor, using~~ with reference to the output signal from the second line sensor, and produces the output signals that are subjected to the black character substitution process.

13. – 14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) An image input apparatus comprising:

a photoelectric conversion device, which includes a first sensor and a second sensor and is configured to convert an image of an original, the first sensor including a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

an image region discrimination unit, which is configured to discriminate an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first sensor of the photoelectric conversion device, and to output discrimination information; and

a correction unit, which is configured to correct the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first sensor of the photoelectric conversion device, on the basis of the discrimination information from the image region discrimination unit, with reference to an output signal from the second sensor of the photoelectric conversion device,

wherein the correction unit performs correction by executing a black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first

sensor on the basis of the discrimination information from the image region discrimination unit, and outputs the output signal from the second sensor.

16. (New) An image input apparatus comprising:

a photoelectric conversion device, which includes a first sensor and a second sensor and is configured to convert an image of an original, the first sensor including a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

an image region discrimination unit, which is configured to discriminate an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of sensors of the first sensor of the photoelectric conversion device, and to output discrimination information; and

a correction unit, which is configured to correct the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first sensor of the photoelectric conversion device, on the basis of the discrimination information from the image region discrimination unit, with reference to an output signal from the second sensor of the photoelectric conversion device,

wherein the correction unit executes a black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first sensor, on the basis of the discrimination information from the image region discrimination unit, with reference to the output signal from the second sensor, and produces the output signals, which are subjected to the black character substitution process, and the output signal from the second sensor.

17. (New) An image input apparatus comprising:

a photoelectric conversion device, which includes a first sensor and a second sensor and is configured to convert an image of an original, the first sensor including a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

an image region discrimination unit, which is configured to discriminate an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first sensor of the photoelectric conversion device, and to output discrimination information; and

a correction unit, which is configured to correct the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first sensor of the photoelectric conversion device, on the basis of the discrimination information from the image region discrimination unit, with reference to an output signal from the second sensor of the photoelectric conversion device,

wherein the correction unit executes a black character substitution process for each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first sensor, on the basis of the discrimination information from the image region discrimination unit, with reference to the output signal from the second sensor, and produces the output signals that are subjected to the black character substitution process.

18. (New) A method for inputting an image comprising:

converting an image of an original with a first line sensor and a second line sensor, the first line sensor including a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second line sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

discriminating an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, and outputting discrimination information; and

correcting the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, on the basis of the discrimination information by the discriminating, with reference to the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor and an output signal from the second line sensor,

wherein the correcting corrects each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor by executing a black character substitution process, based on the discrimination information discriminated and output by the discriminating, with reference to the output signal from the second line sensor and using.

19. (New) A method for inputting an image comprising:

converting an image of an original with a first line sensor and a second line sensor, the first line sensor including a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second line sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

discriminating an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, and outputting discrimination information; and

correcting the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, on the basis of the discrimination information discriminated and output by the discriminating, with reference to the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor and an output signal from the second line sensor,

wherein the correcting corrects each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor the discrimination information discriminated and output by the discriminating with reference to the output signal from the second line sensor, by executing a black character substitution process, and produces the output signals that are subjected to the black character substitution process.

20. (New) A method for inputting an image comprising:

converting an image of an original with a first line sensor and a second line sensor, the first line sensor including a plurality of line sensors having different color filters on light receiving surfaces thereof and the second line sensor having no color filter on a light receiving surface thereof;

discriminating an image region of each of output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, and outputting discrimination information; and

correcting the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor, on the basis of the discrimination information by the discriminating, with reference to the

output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first sensor and an output signal from the second sensor,

wherein the correcting corrects each of the output signals from the plurality of line sensors of the first line sensor on the basis of the discrimination information discriminated and output by the discriminating with reference to the output signal from the second line sensor, by executing a black character substitution process, and produces the output signals that are subjected to the black character substitution process.